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CONNECTICUT LABOR SITUATION

CONNECTICUT LABOR DEPARTMENT

JOB SERVICE

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
WETHERSFIELD 06109

BETTY L. TIANTI
COMMISSIONER

March 1990

Connecticut unemployment increased in February and employment declined, while personal income reached a record high and factory earnings were up, State Labor Commissioner Betty L. Tianti has announced.

Employment, Wages and Hours: An estimated 1,661,700 people worked in non-agricultural jobs, 5,700 fewer (a 0.3 percent drop) than the revised January total. The dip was in both goods-producing and service-producing industries. This was, however, an increase of 3,300 jobs from last year (Page 2). Construction dropped by 3.9 percent for the month, and employment in trade categories was off 1.5 percent, with the largest drop, 6.5 percent, in general merchandise. Jobs in educational services were up 3.9 percent for the month and year, and government employment increased 1.5 percent over the month. Three of the 15 labor market areas, Middletown, New Haven-Meriden and Willimantic, posted gains in employment (Pages 5-6).

Average hourly earnings increased by 4 cents to $11.38 and the average workweek lengthened slightly, causing an increase in average weekly manufacturing earnings to $485.93 for the month (Page 3). This was also above the $11.07 hourly and $467.15 weekly earnings a year before. Straight-time earnings were up slightly, totaling $10.82 hourly and $432.80 weekly, a 0.2 percent gain from January and 2.4 percent above February 1989. Although construction workers' average weekly earnings dipped to $662.70 as a result of a shorter workweek, they surpassed wages of all manufacturing workers. The Hartford area had the highest average hourly and weekly earnings and the longest workweek.

Unemployment: February's unemployment was 5.3 percent, seasonally adjusted to 4.7 percent, a half percentage point increase (Page 4). Both remained below the national rates of 5.8 percent and 5.3 percent seasonally adjusted. The month brought increases in the number of people unemployed in 14 labor markets, a decline in the Willimantic jobless rate and no change in the Middletown area rate. Unemployment estimates include people who are receiving benefits, others who are ineligible for compensation or whose benefits expired and those entering or re-entering the labor force.

Other Indicators: Estimated personal income reached a record $5.877 billion in February (Page 7). Average weekly initial unemployment claims decreased, as did new automobile registrations and manufacturing output.

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CONNECTICUT NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

(Excludes agricultural, private household, self-employed and unpaid family workers)

	FEBRUARY 1990(P)	JANUARY 1990(R)	FEBRUARY 1989(R)	% CHANGE FEB. '90 OVER JAN. '90	% CHANGE FEB. '90 OVER FEB. '89
Total Nonagricultural Employment..	1,661,700 *	1,667,400 *	1,658,400 *	-0.3	0.2
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES.....	419,000 *	423,900 *	436,400 *	-1.2	-2.9
Construction & Mining.....	64,100	66,700	70,400	-3.9	-8.9
Manufacturing.....	354,900 *	357,200 *	366,000 *	-0.6	-3.0
Durable.....	264,600 *	266,700 *	273,900 *	-0.8	-3.4
Lumber & Furniture.....	6,000	6,100	6,600	-1.6	-9.1
Stone, Clay & Glass.....	4,200	4,300	4,400	-2.3	-4.5
Primary Metals.....	11,400	11,500	12,500	-0.9	-8.8
Fabricated Metals.....	40,400 *	40,500 *	42,800 *	-0.2	-5.6
Machinery & Computer Equip....	46,500	46,500	47,500	0.0	-2.1
Electronic & Electrical Equip.	37,800 *	38,400 *	39,600	-1.6	-4.5
Transportation Equipment.....	81,100	82,000	83,000	-1.1	-2.3
Instruments.....	28,900 *	29,100	29,200	-0.7	-1.0
Miscellaneous Manufacturing...	8,300	8,300	8,300	0.0	0.0
Nondurable.....	90,300	90,500	92,100	-0.2	-2.0
Food.....	10,700	10,700	10,900	0.0	-1.8
Textiles.....	2,800	2,900	2,900	-3.4	-3.4
Apparel.....	5,700	5,700	6,200	0.0	-8.1
Paper.....	9,000	9,000	9,100	0.0	-1.1
Printing & Publishing.....	28,100	28,200	28,300	-0.4	-0.7
Chemicals.....	21,000	21,100	21,000	-0.5	0.0
Rubber & Plastics.....	11,600	11,600	12,400	0.0	-6.5
Other Nondurable Mfg.....	1,400	1,300	1,300	7.7	7.7
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES.....	1,242,700 *	1,243,500 *	1,222,000	-0.1	1.7
Transportation.....	39,500 *	40,200 *	39,500	-1.7	0.0
Motor Freight & Warehousing....	16,100	16,300	16,100	-1.2	0.0
Other Transportation.....	23,400 *	23,900 *	23,400	-2.1	0.0
Communications.....	18,000	17,900	19,000	0.6	-5.3
Utilities.....	13,400	13,400	13,000	0.0	3.1
Trade.....	376,900 *	382,500	373,000	-1.5	1.0
Wholesale.....	91,000 *	91,800	90,500	-0.9	0.6
Retail.....	285,900	290,700	282,500	-1.7	1.2
General Merchandise.....	33,200	35,500	34,400	-6.5	-3.5
Food Stores.....	51,000	51,300	51,000	-0.6	0.0
Auto Dealers & Gas Stations...	32,300	32,400	32,500	-0.3	-0.6
Restaurants.....	73,700	73,500	72,900	0.3	1.1
Other Retail Trade.....	95,700	98,000	91,700	-2.3	4.4
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	151,300	151,400	151,000	-0.1	0.2
Finance.....	55,300	55,300	55,900	0.0	-1.1
Insurance.....	80,600	80,600	79,800	0.0	1.0
Real Estate.....	15,400	15,500	15,300	-0.6	0.7
Services.....	430,900	428,500	414,200	0.6	4.0
Hotels.....	13,300	13,100	12,900	1.5	3.1
Personal Services.....	18,500	18,300	18,500	0.0	0.0
Business Services.....	77,000	76,200	76,400	1.0	0.8
Health Services.....	131,000	131,900	126,300	-0.7	3.7
Legal & Professional Services..	53,500	53,300	50,700	0.4	5.5
Educational Services.....	39,800	38,300	38,300	3.9	3.9
Other Services.....	97,800	97,400	91,100	0.4	7.4
Government.....	212,700	209,600	212,300	1.5	0.2
Federal.....	25,600	25,700	25,500	-0.4	0.4
State & Local.....	187,100	183,900	186,800	1.7	0.2
NONMANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT**.....	1,306,800 *	1,310,200 *	1,292,400	-0.3	1.1

* Excludes workers idled to labor management disputes.
** Includes Service Producing Industries and Construction and Mining employment.
(P) Preliminary (R) Revised

Data in this table and most of those which follow was developed by the Connecticut Labor Department under cooperative programs with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

EARNINGS AND HOURS

Manufacturing Production and Related Workers and On-Site Construction Workers

	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Feb. 1990	Jan. 1990	Feb. 1989(R)	Feb. 1990	Jan. 1990	Feb. 1989(R)	Feb. 1990	Jan. 1990	Feb. 1989(R)
MANUFACTURING (Production and Related Workers)	$485.93	$483.08	$467.15	42.7	42.6	42.2	$11.38	$11.34	$11.07
DURABLE MANUFACTURING.....	498.10	494.79	477.81	43.2	43.1	42.7	11.53	11.48	11.19
Lumber & Furniture.....	379.05	377.60	365.36	39.9	40.0	39.8	9.50	9.44	9.18
Stone, Clay and Glass.....	462.76	462.58	447.28	42.3	42.4	41.2	10.94	10.91	10.83
Primary Metals.....	489.72	496.39	492.65	44.0	44.4	45.7	11.13	11.18	10.78
Fabricated Metals.....	464.45	460.65	448.54	42.3	42.3	42.8	10.98	10.89	10.48
Machinery.....	518.83	515.91	506.77	43.5	43.8	43.8	12.01	11.86	11.57
Electrical Equipment.....	410.90	407.45	365.31	43.9	43.3	40.5	9.36	9.41	9.02
Transportation Equipment.....	578.02	575.42	561.60	43.2	43.2	43.2	13.38	13.32	13.00
Instruments	494.75	486.64	484.96	45.1	44.2	43.3	10.97	11.01	11.20
Miscellaneous Manufacturing..	424.58	417.61	376.77	42.8	42.7	40.6	9.92	9.78	9.28
NONDURABLE MANUFACTURING.....	448.26	446.08	433.61	41.2	41.0	40.6	10.88	10.88	10.68
Food.....	384.43	395.37	381.47	38.1	38.8	38.3	10.09	10.19	9.62
Textiles.....	378.63	371.65	343.98	42.4	41.9	39.0	8.93	8.87	8.82
Apparel.....	274.77	267.52	276.05	38.7	38.0	39.1	7.10	7.04	7.06
Paper.....	508.30	515.13	514.07	44.2	44.6	43.9	11.50	11.55	11.71
Printing and Publishing.....	449.28	446.12	426.75	38.4	38.0	37.5	11.70	11.74	11.38
Chemicals.....	574.09	570.64	546.56	43.1	43.1	42.6	13.32	13.24	12.83
Rubber and Misc. Plastics....	420.91	417.63	390.34	44.4	44.1	42.8	9.48	9.47	9.12
Other Nondurable Mfg.....	305.71	310.27	304.87	39.6	40.4	39.8	7.72	7.68	7.66
CONSTRUCTION.....	662.70	674.42	665.13	38.8	39.3	39.9	17.08	17.11	16.67

(R) Revised

UNEMPLOYMENT - CONNECTICUT AND THE UNITED STATES

	February 1990(P) Number	Percent of Labor Force**	January 1990(R) Number	Percent of Labor Force**	February 1989(R) Number	Percent of Labor Force**
Ct. State Totals* Actual	92,500	5.3	84,600	4.8	62,700	3.6
Seasonally Adjusted...		(4.7)		(4.2)		(3.2)
Ct. Labor Market Areas (Not Seasonally Adjusted)						
Bridgeport.....	15,200	6.7	13,800	6.1	10,600	4.7
Bristol.....	2,600	6.5	2,300	5.8	1,700	4.4
Danbury.....	4,900	4.4	4,400	3.9	3,600	3.2
Danielson.....	3,300	9.5	3,200	9.2	2,200	6.7
Hartford.....	19,800	4.6	18,100	4.2	13,800	3.2
Middletown.....	2,200	4.1	2,200	4.1	1,700	3.2
Lower River.....	800	4.4	700	4.0	500	2.9
New Britain.....	4,800	6.6	4,400	6.0	3,100	4.2
New Haven.....	13,900	5.1	12,500	4.6	9,200	3.4
New London/Norwich*..	7,800	6.0	7,100	5.4	4,500	3.5
Norwalk.....	2,700	3.5	2,400	3.0	2,000	2.5
Stamford.....	3,900	3.5	3,400	3.1	2,500	2.2
Torrington.....	2,600	5.4	2,500	5.0	1,900	4.0
Waterbury.....	7,700	7.4	7,300	7.1	4,700	4.7
Willimantic.....	1,300	4.2	1,200	4.4	800	2.8
U.S. Totals-Actual.....	7,134,000	5.8	7,256,000	5.9	6,883,000	5.6
Seasonally Adjusted....		(5.3)		(5.3)		(5.2)

* The two Rhode Island towns of Hopkinton and Westerly are part of the New London/Norwich Labor Market Area and are therefore included in the area estimates. As a result, the sum of the area totals will not agree with the State totals.

** Both the Connecticut and U.S. unemployment rates shown here are for the Civilian Labor Force.

(P) Preliminary (R) Revised

U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - ALL URBAN CONSUMERS

	Feb. '90	Jan. '90	Feb. '89
1967=100.....	383.3	381.5	364.1
1982-84=100.....	128.0	127.4	121.6
Percent Change From....	xxx	+ 0.5	+ 5.3

BRIEF EXPLANATION OF THE CPI- The Consumer Price Index (CPI), computed and published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. It is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and other goods and services that people buy for day to day living.
The series shown above are not seasonally adjusted.

THERE IS NO SEPARATE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR CONNECTICUT OR ANY AREA WITHIN THE STATE.

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT, BY PLACE OF WORK FOR CONNECTICUT LABOR MARKET AREAS

Labor Market Area	Feb.'90	Jan.'90	Feb.'89(R)	Percent Change to Feb. 1990 from: Jan. '90	Feb. '89
BRIDGEPORT-MILFORD					
Total Nonag. Empl.	194,890	196,730	197,070	- 0.9	- 1.1
Goods Producing	59,310	60,090	61,590	- 1.3	- 3.7
Service Producing	135,580	136,640	135,480	- 0.8	0.1
BRISTOL					
Total Nonag. Empl.	27,080	27,180	25,850	- 0.4	4.8
Goods Producing	8,360	8,450	9,240	- 1.1	- 9.5
Service Producing	18,720	18,730	16,610	- 0.1	12.7
DANBURY					
Total Nonag. Empl.	82,470	83,890	82,500	- 1.7	- 0.1
Goods Producing	26,470	26,950	27,970	- 1.8	- 5.4
Service Producing	56,000	56,940	54,530	- 1.7	2.7
DANIELSON					
Total Nonag. Empl.	22,700	22,790	22,790	- 0.4	- 0.4
Goods Producing	8,300	8,300	9,010	0.0	- 7.9
Service Producing	14,400	14,490	13,780	- 0.6	4.5
HARTFORD					
Total Nonag. Empl.	485,990*	490,040*(R)	480,850*	- 0.8	1.1
Goods Producing	103,950*	105,500*	105,280*	- 1.5	- 1.3
Service Producing	382,040*	384,540*(R)	375,570	- 0.7	1.7
MIDDLETOWN					
Total Nonag. Empl.	47,290	47,190	46,520	0.2	1.7
Goods Producing	10,500	10,730	11,360	- 2.1	- 7.6
Service Producing	36,790	36,460	35,160	0.9	4.6
LOWER RIVER					
Total Nonag. Empl.	14,730	14,920	14,680	- 1.3	0.3
Goods Producing	4,860	5,000	5,380	- 2.8	- 9.7
Service Producing	9,870	9,920	9,300	- 0.5	6.1
NEW BRITAIN					
Total Nonag. Empl.	65,330	65,610	66,760	- 0.4	- 2.1
Goods Producing	22,350	22,620	24,540	- 1.2	- 8.9
Service Producing	42,980	42,990	42,220	- 0.0	1.8
NEW HAVEN-MERIDEN					
Total Nonag. Empl.	254,970*	254,710*	256,290	0.1	- 0.5
Goods Producing	55,970*	56,530*	58,640	- 1.0	- 4.6
Service Producing	199,000*	198,180	197,650	0.4	0.7
NEW LONDON-NORWICH**					
Total Nonag. Empl.	117,780	119,140	116,800	- 1.1	0.8
Goods Producing	35,910	36,090	36,900	- 0.5	- 2.7
Service Producing	81,870	83,050	79,900	- 1.4	2.5
NORWALK					
Total Nonag. Empl.	71,690	72,440	72,470	- 1.0	- 1.1
Goods Producing	18,090	18,360	19,910	- 1.5	- 9.1
Service Producing	53,600	54,080	52,560	- 0.9	2.0
STAMFORD					
Total Nonag. Empl.	122,570	124,060	123,380	- 1.2	- 0.7
Goods Producing	24,350	24,960	27,160	- 2.4	- 10.3
Service Producing	98,220	99,100	96,220	- 0.9	2.1

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT, BY PLACE OF WORK FOR CONNECTICUT LABOR MARKET AREAS (Continued)

Labor Market Area	Feb.'90	Jan.'90	Feb.'89(R)	Percent Change to Feb. 1990 from: Jan.'90	Feb.'89
TORRINGTON					
Total Nonag. Empl.	33,440	33,700	33,470	- 0.8	- 0.1
Goods Producing	9,840	9,930	10,620	- 0.9	- 7.3
Service Producing	23,600	23,770	22,850	- 0.7	3.3
WATERBURY					
Total Nonag. Empl.	87,360	88,550	86,770	- 1.3	0.7
Goods Producing	26,430	26,430	27,240	0.0	- 3.0
Service Producing	60,930	62,120	59,530	- 1.9	2.4
WILLIMANTIC					
Total Nonag. Empl.	24,260	21,480	24,220	12.9	0.2
Goods Producing	2,200	2,290	2,450	- 3.9	- 10.2
Service Producing	22,060	19,190	21,770	15.0	1.3

(R) Revised
* Excludes workers idled due to labor-management disputes.
** The two Rhode Island towns of Hopkinton and Westerly are a part of the New London-Norwich labor market area and are therefore included in the estimates.

Note: Area employment estimates may not sum to statewide employment estimates shown in this and other publications because they are made independently.

EARNINGS AND HOURS BY LABOR MARKET AREA
Manufacturing Production and Related Workers

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earning		
	Feb. 1990	Jan. 1990	Feb. 1989	Feb. 1990	Jan. 1990	Feb. 1989	Feb. 1990	Jan. 1990	Feb. 1989
Bridgeport	$511.94	$514.94	$489.06	42.1	43.2	41.8	$12.16	$11.92	$11.70
Hartford	524.30	525.03	495.62	42.8	43.0	42.8	12.25	12.21	11.58
New Britain	516.48	514.61	490.33	42.3	42.6	42.6	12.21	12.08	11.51
New Haven	452.86	445.78	442.74	41.7	41.2	41.3	10.86	10.82	10.72
Stamford	484.67	474.35	501.93	40.9	41.5	42.9	11.85	11.43	11.70
Waterbury	430.36	431.71	419.76	42.4	42.2	42.4	10.15	10.23	9.90

Note: The averages shown above are influenced by the occupational composition of the area and do not necessarily represent differences between areas in pay for the same occupations. While the labor market areas generally take their names from the majo cities, the averages are those for all towns within the area.

CONNECTICUT ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	Employment Nonag. (Thous.)		Av. Weekly Initial Claims		Rate Total Unemployment		Personal Income Millions
	Actual(R)	Seas. Adj.(R)	Actual	Seas. Adj.	Actual	Seas. Adj.	Seasonally Adj.
1989							
Jan....	1660.1	1682.8	5681	3411	3.6	3.3	$5601.7
Feb....	1658.4	1582.6	4000	3948	3.6	3.2	5638.3
Mar....	1668.6	1684.1	3103	4024	3.2	3.1	5642.5
Apr....	1669.9	1669.2	3710	4657	3.2	3.3	5630.2
May....	1679.1	1674.5	2908	4041	3.2	3.4	5646.0
Jun....	1698.6	1678.4	4205	4580	3.6	3.4	5667.0
Jul....	1678.2	1685.4	5611	3737	3.7	3.6	5693.6
Aug....	1671.0	1684.7	4153	4698	4.0	4.0	5729.1
Sep....	1681.6	1681.7	3021	5073	3.8	4.1	5742.6
Oct....	1692.1	1681.3	3499	4992	3.9	4.2	5796.6
Nov....	1699.3	1680.6	3887	5119	3.7	4.1	5834.1
Dec....	1701.6	1676.2	6966	4171	4.0	4.1	5835.7
1990							
Jan....	1667.4(R)	1691.1(R)	8775	5267	4.8	4.2	5846.1(R)
Feb....	1661.7(P)	1685.3(P)	5193	5126	5.3	4.7	5877.7(P)
Mar....							
Apr....							
May....							
Jun....							
Jul....							
Aug....							
Sep....							
Oct....							
Nov....							
Dec....							

	New Auto Registrations		Average Work Week Hours		Mfg. Output (1967=100)	
	Actual	Seas. Adj.	Actual	Seas. Adj.	Actual	Seas. Adj.
1989						
Jan....	7721	9505	42.3	42.3	129.3	125.0
Feb....	8453	10468	42.2	42.2	131.1	126.9
Mar....	18761*	13440*	42.4	42.2	131.3	126.1
Apr....	12968	10747	42.2	42.2	128.2	123.3
May....	12296	12680	42.0	42.1	127.9	123.1
Jun....	10442	10851	42.2	42.1	127.9	121.7
Jul....	6549	8482	41.7	42.0	98.0	115.7
Aug....	14292	13586	41.5	42.2	100.3	117.5
Sep....	7092	6734	42.2	42.2	127.2	124.3
Oct....	10734	12191	42.0	42.1	126.5	122.0
Nov....	11312	10884	42.5	42.1	126.9	121.3
Dec....	8377	7950	42.7	42.2	114.8	120.6
1990						
Jan....	9172	11296	42.6	42.6	126.5	122.2
Feb....	7749	9590	42.7	42.7	125.4	121.4
Mar....						
Apr....						
May....						
Jun....						
Jul....						
Aug....						
Sep....						
Oct....						
Nov....						
Dec....						

(R) Revised (P) Preliminary
* Data affected by administrative factors

CONNECTICUT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFIT FINANCIAL DATA

	Average Weekly Insured Unemployed	Unemployment Benefits Paid	Employer Contributions Collected
1975	83,971	298,345,000	140,940,000
1976	67,864	238,013,000	164,922,000
1977	53,699	193,150,000	177,719,000
1978	37,220	138,351,000	189,892,000
1979	30,876	114,926,000	181,376,000
1980	37,463	163,644,000	174,402,000
1981	36,507	173,725,000	167,840,000
1982	47,952	262,962,000	183,733,000
1983	40,251	232,255,000	201,578,000
1984	25,428	154,180,000	238,511,000
1985	26,449	177,887,000	249,065,000
1986	24,950	175,584,000	238,705,000
1987	20,619	158,278,000	211,387,000
1988	21,101	179,844,000	208,656,000
1989	29,097	265,821,000	190,278,000
Jan'89	32,988	27,185,000	4,492,000
Feb	32,590	24,145,000	16,659,000
Mar	32,428	26,006,000	801,000
Apr	28,016	21,331,000	18,661,000
May	25,007	21,526,000	87,494,000
Jun	25,638	18,453,000	1,042,000
Jul	29,660	20,965,000	10,241,000
Aug	30,687	22,836,000	28,056,000
Sep	25,997	17,651,000	512,000
Oct	25,316	20,775,000	6,254,000
Nov	27,225R	20,482,000	15,668,000
Dec	33,614	24,466,000	398,000
Jan'90	48,364	43,603,000	5,309,000
Feb	48,057	36,383,000	12,311,000
Mar			
Apr			
May			
Jun			
Jul			
Aug			
Sep			
Oct			
Nov			
Dec			

Federal Loans

1972	31,800,000
1973	21,700,000
1974	8,500,000
1975	203,000,000
1976	137,000,000
1977	75,000,000
1978	37,000,000
1983	63,806,000*

Direct Loan Repayments

1976	$ 26,000,000
1977	27,300,000
1978	37,300,000
1979	39,600,000
1984	30,876,000
1985	32,930,000
1986	40,187,000

Loan Repayments Via Employer Tax Credit Reduction

1975	$ 12,906,000
1981	46,537,000
1982	49,496,000
1983	53,975,000
1984	57,349,000
1985	61,138,000
1986	64,352,000R

Total Outstanding Loans (2/28/90)

$ 0

Ct. UC Trust Fund Reserve - (2/28/90)

$199.3 million

*Interest bearing R-Revised